



ANCIENT RELIEF MAP FOUND ON STONE SLAB IN THE URALS

According to the Russian news agency Pravda, scientists at Bashkir State University in the southern Ural Mountains are discussing their findings concerning a mysterious stone slab which has a detailed relief map etched into it. They have been studying the slab since they carted it away from the village of Chandar, near Ufa, in July 1999.

Prof. Alexandr Chuvyrov, who heads the specialist team of cartographers, geologists, physicists and chemists, believes they have found proof of the existence of an ancient, highly developed civilisation—evidence that defies conventional notions of human history.

For a start, the relief map was not made manually by an ancient stonecutting tool; as X-ray analysis revealed, it was machined with precision tools. It also shows a view that could only have been plotted by aerial survey.

The dimensions of the slab were determined once it was dug out of the backyard of a village house: 148 cm x 106 cm x 16 cm. Once they cleaned it back at the lab, the scientists realised they had uncovered a 3D relief map (or plan) of the Ufa region on a scale of 1:1.1 kilometres.

Apart from showing identifiable features such as rivers and canyons, it also depicts

civil engineering and irrigation works including two 500-metre-wide channel systems, with a total length of about 12,000 kilometres, and 12 dams, each 300–500 metres wide, approx. 10 km long and 3 km deep, which would have required the shift-

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ing of over a quadrillion cubic metres of earth to construct. The slab consists of three layers: a 14-cm-thick base made of hard dolomite, a second layer of diopside glass of a composition unknown to modern science, and a 2-mm-thick top layer of calcium porcelain to protect the map from impact.

To try to determine the age of the map, the scientists carried out radiocarbon analysis and scanned the layers with a uranium chronometer, but the results were inconclusive. At first the scientists thought the find

might be about 3,000 years old, but then they discovered two shells embedded in the slab, from shellfish species that existed 500 and 120 million years ago—though this is no confirmation that the map is actually that ancient.

The slab also contains inscriptions written in an unknown hieroglyphic-syllabic language. The scientists originally thought the script might be some form of Old Chinese, because in 1995 Prof. Chuvyrov was investigating the writings left by ancient Chinese people during possible migrations to Siberia and the Urals, but their archival searches disproved this notion and the script remains undeciphered.

The scientists are speculating that the slab is only a fragment of a much larger map that they estimate to have been 340 x 340 metres in size and that might possibly have depicted the entire planet's surface. They hypothesise that it was most likely situated in the Sokolinaya Mountain gorge but was broken up in the last glacial epoch, the slabs eventually being deposited in Chandar and elsewhere in the Ufa region. The scientists are continuing their search for more slabs and fragments, which could well number in their hundreds.

(Source: Pravda website, April 30, 2002, <http://english.pravda.ru/main/2002/04/30/28149.html>)

A CYCLOPEAN SKULL OR A CASE OF CHEMICAL WEATHERING?

Ancient skulls allegedly bearing a single eyeball socket have been found in limestone caves in the hinterlands of Bohol, Bukidnon, at Mt Palaupau in Sumilao and in some parts of Agusan in the southern Philippines.

The existence of the skulls, which resemble those of the cyclops—a race of giants in Greek mythology with a single eye in the middle of the forehead—has triggered speculations that one-eyed ancient settlers once lived in the country's southern islands.

Tribal folklore has it that giants once roamed the plains of central and northern Mindanao, the most popular of whom, according to Bukidnon legend, was "Agyo", who fought against the first Spanish conquistadors. Bukidnon's tribal people are reportedly keeping skeletal remains, which they believe to be Agyo's, in a sacred cave as an object of worship.

Reports about the strange skulls had prompted archaeologists of the National Museum to launch an excavation in Bohol, and they managed to find one such skull.

Archaeologist Rey Santiago said that intensive study of the skull showed it belonged to an "ancient settler". However, he theorises that limestone in caves where the "cyclops skulls" were discovered could have triggered a chemical reaction, creating a new eyeball socket in the skull.

"Human bones and limestone have similar [composition]," he said.

Despite Santiago's explanation, though, tribal folklore maintains there were two races of giants in ancient times: the *kapre*, who were associated with evil, and the one-eyed giants, whom early settlers regarded as their heroes.

(Source: by *Perseus Echeminada*, *The Philippine Star*, February 24, 2002)

EVIDENCE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENT IN ICE-AGE TIBET

Handprints and footprints 20,000 years old reveal that people lived on the Tibetan Plateau at the height of the Ice Age, 16,000 years earlier than scientists had thought. The newly found signs of life cast doubt on the idea that a kilometre-thick glacier covered the plateau at that time.

David Zhang and S. H. Li of the University of Hong Kong found the marks

of at least six individuals, including two children, in marble-like rocks that were once soft mud, on a mountain slope 85 kilometres from the Tibetan capital, Lhasa.¹

They also found a fireplace nearby with the remains of a primitive stove, suggesting that the site was a camp, perhaps even a settlement.

Until now, the oldest known settlements on the Tibetan Plateau dated from late Neolithic times, around 4,000 years ago. This had led some researchers to conclude that humans first migrated into Tibet around this time.

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The encampment is also a nail in the coffin for the "ice-covered plateau" hypothesis. It indicates that at least part of the plateau, which today is 4,000 metres high on average, was free of ice even during this frigid period of Earth's history.

The very hot spring that probably attracted the Ice Age settlers also preserved their marks for posterity. The spring water is rich in dissolved minerals and gases. As carbon dioxide gas bubbles out of the water, minerals such as calcite precipitate out, forming a soft mineral mud. As the mud dries, it turns into a hard, durable limestone called *travertine*.

So, thanks to the hot spring, the mountainside made plaster casts of the Ice Age people who lived on it. Nineteen handprints and footprints are clearly visible in the stone surface.

Zhang and Li date the travertine deposit by the tiny grains of quartz that became trapped within it while the mud solidified.

Quartz acts as a mineral clock. When heated, it emits light in proportion to the time that has elapsed since it was last warmed or exposed to sunlight. This technique is called *thermoluminescence dating*.

Energy builds up in trapped quartz because it is exposed to radiation from natural radioactive elements such as uranium and thorium in surrounding minerals. It emits this energy as light: the longer the exposure time, the higher the energy and so the brighter the light. Because heat or sunlight releases the trapped energy, the quartz grain clock would have been set to zero when the grains became embedded in the warm mud from the spring.

Endnote

1. Zhang, D. D. and Li, S. H., "Optical dating of Tibetan human hand- and footprints: an implication for the palaeoenvironment of the last glaciation of the Tibetan Plateau", *Geophysical Research Letters* 29, 2002.

(Source: Reported in *Nature*, March 27, 2002, <http://www.nature.com>)

CURIOUS ARTEFACTS FOUND IN NEW HAMPSHIRE CAVE

The following article is reprinted from the Ohio, USA, *Zanesville Gazette* of May 18, 1852:

"A correspondent of the *Boston Herald*, who signs himself Charles G. Proctor, states that he is engaged with

a party of surveyors in locating a railroad through New Hampshire, and that the party discovered a curious cave at a place called Nester Gap, on 27th ult [ultimo, of the past month]. The writer says:

"After descending seven steps, the aperture winding all the way, we found ourselves in a spacious cave, with the roof ascending until it reached a height of nearly 40 feet. The size of the cave was, by actual measurement, 94 feet long and 64 feet in its widest part; beyond this, another flight of steps seemingly deeper than the first extended to another chamber, but we have not explored it. What lay beyond the first room, to what extent the cave reaches or what it contains, remains to be seen; but judging from what we have already discovered, the investigations that are to be made will possess the most overpowering interest.

"When we had been in the cave long enough to accommodate our eyes to the dim light furnished by the opening we had made, we began to make observations. We were filled with astonishment at what lay before us. The cave or grotto had evidently been used as a hiding place for treasure and

a place of concealment for those who had used it. Implements of defence lay in groups on one side. They were of an exceedingly antique form. Hoar antiquity rested on every article before us. The dust of ages had settled down upon all things in the cave.

"In one corner we found three earthen vessels of singular construction and shape. These were filled with coins of silver, brass and iron but mostly of brass of various shapes. The coins bore no image, were coarsely but most curiously wrought, and Captain Edwards, the leader of the party, who boasts some knowledge of coins, declares them to be unlike anything he had ever seen or read of and of a very ancient date.

"The most singular and interesting discovery of all consists in our having found, in a niche, several rolls and packages composed of a material entirely unknown to us, upon which were inscribed figures and characters, the meaning of which, as yet, we have not been able to determine upon or to make out the nation or date to which they may have belonged.

"The party has returned to the cave, prepared to explore it to its utmost extent.

"The coins and the scrolls are supposed to have a date prior to the Christian era, and have been sent to Boston to be submitted to the investigation of learned men."

(Source: *The Zanesville Gazette, Ohio, USA, May 18, 1852, posted at <http://greatserpentmound.org>)*

"NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC" VALIDATES BILLY MEIER CLAIM

Finally, proof has emerged that validates Eduard (Billy) Meier's claim that he was contacted by extraterrestrials from the Pleiades in the 1970s!

The January 2002 issue of *National Geographic* magazine printed an interesting confirmation of the validity of Meier's claims. In that issue, I found a newsbrief which acknowledges that, just as Meier claimed back in the 1970s, Mt Everest is not the highest mountain on Earth.

Meier, in his writings, stated the Pleiadians told him that Mt Chimborazo in Ecuador was higher than Mt Everest by 2,150 metres because the Earth is not perfectly round but, rather, bulges in the middle—thus, measuring mountains from sea level is not an accurate way of assessing the true height of a mountain.

National Geographic states that

scientists have now determined that the Earth bulges around the middle because of the spinning action of the Earth's rotation, and thus, when measured from the centre of the planet, Mt Chimborazo is actually higher than Mt Everest by 2,200 metres. Measured from sea level, Mt Everest is 2,540 metres higher than Mt Chimborazo. The newsbrief states that when measured from the centre of the Earth, Mt Chimborazo is 6,384,450 metres high and Mt Everest is 6,382,250 metres high.

For a poor Swiss farmer who never graduated from high school to pick that particular mountain and declare it to be the highest mountain on Earth, higher than Mt Everest—and to come within 50 metres of its height, measured from the centre of the planet, years before scientists recognised this fact—is quite an extraordinary feat, I think anyone would have to agree.

In 1997 I wrote *Star Wisdom*, a book about the essential spiritual message of the Pleiadians (based on Billy Meier's Semjase contact notes), which mentioned the Mt Chimborazo claim.

In the February 2002 issue of the UK-based *UFO Magazine* (vol. 21, no. 3), my book was reviewed by Kate Miller, who stated:

...the question that became uppermost in my mind on reading Star Wisdom was whether a supposedly poor Swiss farmer (who never graduated from high school) could conjure up the kind of beautiful and inspiring words that are manifest in the book. Could he have possibly invented the seven basic principles of

the Pleiadians that cover Oneness, Eternal Spiritual Evolution, Self-Responsibility, Love, Balance, Truth and Equality?

I can't explain it [the accurate naming of Mt Chimborazo as the highest mountain on this planet] and I seriously doubt whether sceptics would even venture to try, but please, be my guest! The same is true for anyone who feels it would be a worthwhile exercise to revisit Billy Meier and the teachings of the Pleiadians. You just may find it a truly rewarding experience.

Today there is a great public interest in the UFO phenomenon as well as in spirituality. *Star Wisdom* offers a rational, logical and eminently effective way of practising spirituality in one's daily life.

The Pleiadians presented to Meier a clear and liberating message which, to me, is not only welcome but necessary in the chaotic realm of modern spirituality where the hardened dogmas of fundamentalism are competing with the allure of New Age "pop" philosophies. In light of the current events on our planet, I believe it is time for us to take seriously their wise directives in this regard.

If you want to read *Star Wisdom*, please write to me, Gene Andrade, at PO Box 223743, Carmel, CA 93922, USA, for information on how to order a copy of the book directly from me; alternatively, you can order it from Amazon.com.

(Source: *Gene Andrade press release, April 28, 2002, via email starwisdom@pacbell.net)*

